

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

Separate Folder

STATE: Indiana	
COUNTY: Allen	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME				
COMMON: City Hall - Fort Wayne, Indiana				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 308 East Berry Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Fort Wayne, Indiana				
STATE Indiana	CODE 18	COUNTY: Allen	CODE 003	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments See attached page.
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: City of Fort Wayne				
STREET AND NUMBER: One Main Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Fort Wayne		STATE: Indiana	CODE 18	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Allen County Recorder's Office				
STREET AND NUMBER: One Main Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Fort Wayne		STATE: Indiana	CODE 18	
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Hanna's 1st Addition				
DATE OF SURVEY: June 7, 1837 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Allen County Recorder's Office				
STREET AND NUMBER: One Main Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Fort Wayne		STATE: Indiana	CODE 18	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Indiana	
COUNTY	
Allen	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

3. CLASSIFICATION

Comments -

Since the completion and occupancy of the new City-County Building in 1969, the Old City Hall has been vacant and ill maintained. During the City Hall's useful life, the building housed all local government offices. As the City grew, however, so did the size of its governmental departments and by the mid-'60's new thought was given to a bigger facility to house City agencies. By the summer of 1969, the last City department moved from the City Hall into the new City-County Building; thus, vacating the Old City Hall at that time.

It is hoped that upon the restoration of the building, new public and semi-public agencies can again be housed within this structure. The Fort Wayne Fine Arts Center, the Allen County Council on Aging and the Fort Wayne Well-Baby Clinic have already expressed their desire to utilize the facility.

7 DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div>(Check One)</div> <div>(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Incorporated in 1840, the City of Fort Wayne received a portion of land through a donation by Samuel Hanna, who came to the area about 1820. On that site was erected in 1855 a City Hall and attached market place at a cost of \$2,800. On July 27, 1869, the City Council ordered the municipal structure at the market place to be replaced with a new building that could house all the branches of the City's ever increasing departments.</p> <p>Because Samuel Hanna by then a judge liked things done with dispatch, the second City Hall was finished that very year but it failed to provide all the room necessary to house the entire City government. By 1885, new noises were heard calling for a new City Hall that could house all the City's offices and bring pride to the community. A committee was formed to study details of a new building and in 1892, after several annual tax levies, the committee provided \$69,919.68 in the building construction fund. On April 20, 1893, the new City Hall was completed at a cost of \$57,489.00 and praised as "an ornament to the City,"..."the best, the most complete, most elegant appearing and most economically constructed City Hall in Indiana or anywhere else," stated one of the City's newspapers.</p> <p>Not much change has been made to the old City Hall since its opening eighty years ago. In fact, except for several sand blastings in order to clean the building's exterior, absolutely no change in the building's outwardly appearance has been made. The building, constructed of large sand-stone blocks, has weathered the past years very well. Some minor damage to various spots in the structure's mortar joints, due to the cleaning method used, has occurred and should be repaired by repointing for those joints. Exterior doors and windows are in poor shape due largely from weathering and the fact that no maintenance to the building has been made since its vacancy. Undoubtedly, new exterior doors and some exterior windows will need to be installed in order to bring the building up to acceptable standards and weather tightness.</p> <p>The City Hall's interior, although aesthetically in bad shape with paint peeling from the walls and ceilings, has not suffered any structural damage and is in sound condition. Minor change in the building's interior appearance occurred in 1932 and consisted primarily in the adding of partition walls to make more offices within the building. Court Chambers located on the second floor received the greatest amount of change during that period by the addition of a partitioned office which runs the complete length of the room from north to south and occupies about one-fourth of the Court's original floor space. The Court's bench and public seats were rotated 90 degrees from their original east-west position to their present north-south view.</p> <p>Generally, little is known about the structure's original interior design. It appears, however, except for the partitions and Court Room rotation, little if any changes to the building interior and exterior have been made.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

Building Completed 1893

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Because of this building's architectural design and historical value to the community of Fort Wayne, the preservation of the City Hall is of prime concern to interested citizens. The City of Fort Wayne has its roots deep into our American westward movement.

For a long time the forks of the three rivers located in Fort Wayne was considered one of the most strategic positions in the new world. It is possible now, as it was in the early 17th Century, to travel from Quebec, Canada up the St. Lawrence River through the Great Lakes, up the Maumee River to its junction with the St. Mary's and St. Joseph. Then, by portaging only about eight miles, launch a boat into the headwaters of the Wabash River which, in turn, flows into the Ohio River. Thus, the travel from Quebec, Canada to New Orleans can be made completely by water except for an eight mile portage located here at Fort Wayne.

As early as 1632 the French saw the importance of a fort located here in order to secure a trade route, and in 1686 they built a fort called Miami after the Indian trip which controlled the area. In 1760 the French fort was captured by the British who were intent upon controlling the fur trade in the area. After that time, and until the American Revolution, the Union Jack flew over the fort.

On July 10, 1787, Secretary of War Henry Knox recommended a chain of posts in the now Indiana, Ohio area. These forts were to be built "to awe the savages, cover the surveyors and prevent (British) intrusions." One location he mentioned for such a post was the headwaters of the Maumee River. General Anthony Wayne, chosen by President Washington after the defeat of two American armies, was asked to secure the area for American settlement. The bold defeat of the Shawnee Chief Blue Jacket at the Battle of Fallen Timbers quickly settled the Indian uprising, and on September 17, 1794, General Wayne and his army reached the junction of the three rivers. On October 24th, five days after the general's army completed the building of a new American fort, the fort was formally named Fort Wayne by Colonel John Hamtranch. By 1819 all Indian trouble in this area had ended and the American troops left the post. However, several settlers were already establishing farms, and commercial trade stores. Among these settlers was a man named Samuel Hanna, who later would become one of the area's first judges. Around 1840, Samuel Hanna donated to the City of Fort Wayne the land in which the old City Hall now sits.

(Cont.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Indiana	
COUNTY Allen	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Statement -

To realize the architectural significance of Fort Wayne's City Hall we must understand how it falls into architectural history.

The history of American Architecture is broken into four (4) basic phases:

- (1) Indigenous Phase (500 B.C.-A.D. Sixteenth Century)
- (2) Colonial Phase (Sixteenth - Nineteenth Century)
- (3) National Phase (Nineteenth Century - 1930)
- (4) Modern Architecture (1930 -)

The City Hall was constructed in the National Phase, and more particularly, in the Second Eclectic Period of the National Phase (1860-1930). In this period, American Architecture for the first time achieved international significance.

Henry Hobson Richardson was one of the periods most important exponents with the Romanesque revival style. Richardson rose in a period when American architects were searching for order. Using the basic principle of Romanesque Architecture and ornament, Richardson was able to bring vitality to American architecture. There are certain characteristics that seem to be inherent in Richardson's work. The first and most obvious is the massive stone work that is prevalent in nearly all of his designs. This was undoubtedly reminiscent of the massivity of the Romanesque churches of Europe. Complementing the heavy stones are Romanesque character semi-circular arches that seem to give most of the dynamics and order to his work. Ornament in most cases is changed to meet the architectural needs. Some of Richardson's work, which strongly tie the Fort Wayne City Hall to the Richardsonian Style are: Trinity Church, Boston, Mass. (1872-1877), City Hall, Albany, N.Y. (1880-1882), Marshall Field Wholesale Store, Chicago, Ill. (1885-1887), and the Allegheny County Court House & Jail, Pittsburg, Pa. (1884-1887).

The Fort Wayne City Hall was constructed in 1893, and definitely falls into the period of H.H. Richardson's influence. Throughout our investigations, we discovered that the architects for the City Hall were Wing and Mamurim, but were unable to find out anything on their background. We only suppose that they were a local firm and that the Richardson style was used in this design. The Fort Wayne City Hall lacks the dynamics of most of Richardson's work, mainly because the amount of detailing seems to be too much for the scale of the building. Nevertheless, it is obvious that the strength and vitality of Richardson's style was grasped. The heavy rough hewn stone work accompanied by the semi-circular Romanesque arches is the first key to this building's

(Cont.)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Indiana	
COUNTY	
Allen	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

historical ties. Although much smaller in scale, the Fort Wayne City Hall draws strong parallels to Richardson's Allegheny County Court House and Jail. The details pertaining to the columns and capitals, the coping, the ornamental roof ridges, the arches, are all reminiscent of the Romanesque revival style, and can only lead to Richardson's influence. We feel that this particular piece of architecture is a strong example of the Richardson's style, and that it is well worth preserving in light of this history.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- (a) Fort Wayne's City Hall, by Rex M. Potterf, Fort Wayne Library, Old Fort News, Fall of 1970.
- (b) Fort Wayne, Sentinel Newspaper, April 21, 1893 and Fort Wayne, Journal Newspaper, April 21, 1893, Fort Wayne Library.
- (c) "Indiana Collection", Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- (d) Wayne Andrews, Architecture, Ambition and Americans, The Free Press, New York, 1967.
- (e) Sir Banister Fletcher, A History of Architecture on the Comparative Method, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1961.
- (f) Outline of Fort Wayne History 1750-1860, prepared by Fort Wayne Public Library staff, 1956.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE							
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds					
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	41	04	46	85	08	10
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: David R. Vervalin, Assistant Director		DATE Oct. 10, 1972
ORGANIZATION Department of Urban Affairs		
STREET AND NUMBER: One Main Street, City-County Building		
CITY OR TOWN: Fort Wayne	STATE Indiana	CODE 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS